

# REPORT OF NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 11th August 1883.

## CONTENTS :

	Page.		Page.
Rajah of Palconda ... ..	477	The outstill system ... ..	486
Mr. Rivers Thompson ... ..	ib.	The International Exhibition ... ..	ib.
Lodgings of European and native clerks at Darjeeling ...	478	Asruf Bibi's case ... ..	ib.
The Indian exchequer ... ..	ib.	Insufficient water-supply ... ..	ib.
Surendra Nath Banerjee ... ..	ib.	A national fund ... ..	ib.
Agricultural Department for Bengal ... ..	479	Lament of an English editor ... ..	487
Asruf Bibi's case ... ..	ib.	Mrs. Hume's case ... ..	ib.
St. James' Hall meeting ... ..	ib.	Rajah Sib Prasad ... ..	488
Political independence ... ..	ib.	Mr. Henderson ... ..	ib.
Asruf Bibi's case ... ..	480	Rajah Sib Prasad ... ..	ib.
Ditto ... ..	481	Improvement of the condition of the people ...	489
Weekly report on native papers ... ..	ib.	Mass education ... ..	ib.
Money-order forms ... ..	ib.	Roads leading to the Magrahât railway station ...	ib.
Reflections ... ..	ib.	Jungle in Furreedpore ... ..	ib.
The salt duty ... ..	ib.	What the zemindars should do ... ..	ib.
The Bengal Tenancy Bill ... ..	482	Future of India ... ..	ib.
The outstill system ... ..	ib.	Decline of native industries ... ..	490
Appellate benches ... ..	ib.	The Ilbert Bill ... ..	ib.
Agricultural Department for Bengal ... ..	ib.	Appellate benches ... ..	491
Mr. Thompson at Utterparah ... ..	ib.	The High Court Judges on the Ilbert Bill ... ..	ib.
Lord Ripon ... ..	ib.	Emigration from India ... ..	492
Widow re-marriage ... ..	483	The acting Principalship of the Hooghly College ...	ib.
Post-masters ... ..	ib.	Appellate benches ... ..	ib.
Administration of Sylhet ... ..	ib.	Bengali a subject of study in colleges ... ..	493
Female pupils in the Medical College ... ..	ib.	The Ilbert Bill in England ... ..	ib.
Rajah Harish Chandra and Deputy Commissioner of		The Ilbert Bill ... ..	ib.
Chittagong ... ..	484	The Bengal Tenancy Bill ... ..	ib.
Asruf Bibi's case ... ..	ib.	A Royal Commission on Indian finance ... ..	494
The Sudder Munsif of Chittagong ... ..	ib.	Provisioning of troops on march ... ..	ib.
The outstill system ... ..	ib.	A native press association ... ..	ib.
Dr. K. D. Ghosh ... ..	ib.	The outstill system ... ..	ib.
The Ilbert Bill ... ..	ib.	A case of assault ... ..	ib.
Asruf Bibi's case ... ..	485	Price of salt ... ..	ib.
A national fund ... ..	ib.	Chandbali ... ..	495
The outstill system ... ..	ib.		

## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
Fortnightly.				
1	"Bhārat Hitaishī" ... ..	Burrisal ... ..	450	22nd July 1883. 30th ditto.
2	"Sansodhini" ... ..	Chittagong ... ..	653	
3	"Purva Pratidhwani" ... ..	Ditto ... ..	474	
4	"Tripurā Vārtāvaha" ... ..	Comillah ... ..	.....	
5	"Prem Prachārinī" ... ..	Nawabgunge, Barrack-pore. ....	.....	
Weekly.				
6	"Ananda Bazar Patrikā" ... ..	Calcutta ... ..	700	6th August 1883.
7	"Arya Darpan" ... ..	Ditto ... ..	150	3rd ditto.
8	"Bangabāsi" ... ..	Ditto ... ..	8,500	
9	"Bārtābaha" ... ..	Pubna ... ..	.....	
10	"Bhārat Bandhu" ... ..	Calcutta ... ..	.....	
11	"Bhārat Mihir" ... ..	Mymensingh ... ..	713	7th ditto.
12	"Bardwān Sanjivani" ... ..	Burdwan ... ..	282	31st July & 7th August 1883.
13	"Chāruvārtā" ... ..	Sherepore, Mymensingh ...	529	30th July 1883.
14	"Dacca Prakash" ... ..	Dacca ... ..	526	29th July & 5th August 1883.
15	"Education Gazette" ... ..	Hooghly ... ..	745	3rd August 1883.
16	"Grāmvārtā Prakāshikā" ... ..	Comercolly ... ..	267	28th July & 4th August 1883.
17	"Halisahar Prakāshikā" ... ..	Calcutta ... ..	.....	5th August 1883.
18	"Hindu Ranjikā" ... ..	Beauleah, Rajshahye... ..	200	
19	"Jātiya Suhrid" ... ..	Calcutta ... ..	700	
20	"Murshidabad Patrikā" ... ..	Bernampore ... ..	418	27th July 1883.
21	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi" ... ..	Ditto ... ..	.....	
22	"Navavibhakar" ... ..	Calcutta ... ..	850	6th August 1883.
23	"Paridarshak" ... ..	Sylhet ... ..	421	29th July 1883.
24	"Prajā Bandhu" ... ..	Chandernagore ... ..	287	31st ditto.



No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<b>BENGALI—concluded.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
25	"Pratikár" ... ..	Berhampore ...	275	2nd & 9th August 1883.
26	"Pratinidhi" ... ..	Calcutta ...	1,000	
27	"Rajshahye Samvād" ... ..	Beauleah ...	.....	2nd August 1883.
28	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh" ... ..	Kakiniā, Rungpore ...	220	
29	"Sādhārānī" ... ..	Chinsurah ...	500	29th July 1883.
30	"Sahachar" ... ..	Calcutta ...	500	1st August 1883.
31	"Samaya" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	6th ditto.
32	"Sanjivani" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	28th July 1883.
33	"Saraswat Patra" ... ..	Dacca ...	.....	6th August 1883.
34	"Som Prakāsh" ... ..	Changripottā, 24-Perghs. ...	.....	
35	"Sulabha Samāchār" ... ..	Calcutta ...	3,000	28th July & 4th August 1883.
36	"Surabhi" ... ..	Deoghur ...	.....	6th August 1883.
<i>Daily.</i>				
37	"Samvād Prabhākar" ... ..	Calcutta ...	250	3rd to 7th August 1883.
38	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya" ... ..	Ditto ...	300	3rd to 10th ditto.
39	"Samachār Chandrikā" ... ..	Ditto ...	625	6th to 8th ditto.
40	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā" ... ..	Ditto ...	500	
41	"Prabhātī" ... ..	Ditto ...	500	
<b>ENGLISH AND URDU.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
42	"Urdu Guide" ... ..	Calcutta ...	365	
<b>HINDI.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
43	"Bhārat Mitra" ... ..	Calcutta ...	1,500	2nd August 1883.
44	"Sār Sudhānidhi" ... ..	Ditto ...	500	30th July 1883.
45	"Uchit Baktā" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	28th ditto.
<b>PERSIAN.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	"Jām-Jahān-numā" ... ..	Calcutta ...	250	3rd August 1883.
<b>ASSAMESE.</b>				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
47	"Assam Vilāsini" ... ..	Sibsagar ...	.....	
<b>URIYA.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
48	"Utkal Dīpikā" ... ..	Cuttack ...	188	22nd July 1883.
49	"Utkal Darpan" ... ..	Balasore ...	200	
50	"Balasore Samvad Vāhikā" ... ..	Ditto ...	92	26th ditto.
51	"Purusottam Patrikā" ... ..	Pooree ...	330	
<b>HINDI.</b>				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
52	"Kshatriya Patrikā" ... ..	Patna ...	400	



## POLITICAL.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
August 6th, 1883.

The *Ananda Bazar Patriká* of the 6th August, contains two articles on the case of Rajah of Palconda. The editor gives a short history of the present Rajah's career and of the hard treatment he has received at the hands of the British Government. In a fit of generosity his claims to his paternal estate were set aside in favour of an illegitimate brother, and when ultimately the ryots revolted against the authority of the new chief, Government promptly put down the revolt, cast the youthful zemindar into prison, and confiscated the estate. Now, this revolt was not directed against Government, and the young zemindar had no hand in it, and yet Government in dealing out justice made him a prisoner and confiscated his estate. The poor man languished for 40 years in prison and was at length set at liberty by Lord Napier, who also generously increased his allowance. It is to be regretted that even the present Liberal Government of England has refused to do him justice.

## PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

SULABHA SAMACHAR,  
July 28th, 1883.

2. The following is a translation of an article in the *Sulabha Samáchar*, of the 28th July, headed "Lieutenant-Governor! you are indeed like our father."

Mr. Rivers Thompson.

Why has our Lieutenant-Governor come to this? We expected much from him. We thought that he would not sympathise with those who were labouring to make men of women. We thought that, himself a righteous man, he would at least protect the subjects from the path of unrighteousness; but it is to be regretted that he has rejected the petition of the owners of jute-mills against the outstill system, and the petition of Christian missionaries against the spread of drunkenness. His reply to the petitioners is, that it is not the fact that the masses in this country are using more liquor owing to the prevalence of the outstill system; but that they are using more liquor, because they have now more money in their hands. He has also said this in his letter to the Secretary of State for India. Then let the Lieutenant-Governor say that, "Sir Ashley Eden introduced the outstill system. He is my elder brother. Did he introduce the system without knowing what he was about? The system that he introduced I will continue, and I shall not enquire into its merits. It is not for me to do anything that is new or good: my business is to maintain the works of my elder brother." If such were not the attitude of the Lieutenant-Governor, then why could not a man of his position see what can be seen even by children? How many labourers are there who earn more than ten to twenty rupees a month? How much can they save after supplying all the wants of their families? If liquor were dear, they would not be able with the money they earn to drink so copiously. Thanks to Lieutenant-Governors, liquor is now as cheap in the country as water, and hence are people sinking in intemperance.

The revenue which Government raised from liquor the year before the introduction of the outstill system increased, when next year the system was introduced, by hundreds of thousands of rupees. Was this result due to any increase of the wealth of the people in the space of one year, or was it not rather due to the fact that the introduction of the outstill system had rendered liquor exceedingly cheap? Let not the Lieutenant-Governor thus say things which can only impose on children. Why is the Lieutenant-Governor, who is like our father, thus seeking to bring ruin upon this country in all matters? The respectable classes are in crowds emptying the casks of English-made liquor; whilst the lower classes of the people



have begun to drink off jars of country-made liquor like so much river water. The wealthy are intoxicated with drink and are rolling on the ground; the lower orders who serve them are also intoxicated with drink and are rolling on the ground. What then can save the world? The big *sahibs* of the-jute mills came forward with their testimony, and yet no change came over the Lieutenant-Governor's disposition. Alas! If the Sovereign becomes the destroyer, who can save the subjects? O God! change the disposition of the Lieutenant-Governor.

SULADHA SAMACHAR,  
July 28th, 1883.

3. The same paper makes the following observations in an editorial paragraph:—Houses are being built at Darjeeling for the accommodation of the officers subordinate to the Lieutenant-Governor. Those for the use of Europeans and Eurasians are being built near the office on a good site; while Bengali Baboos will have to put up in houses near the bazar. While the rooms intended for Europeans and Eurasians are 15 to 18 feet long and equally broad, those for Bengali Baboos are of half the dimensions. Is this His Honor's good judgment? Does he not know that there are among his Bengali clerks men who live in spacious two-storied houses of their own; while Eurasians usually live in ordinary one-storied houses rented by them? Why is this lack of consideration for Bengalies?

GRAMVARTA  
PRAKASHIKA,  
July 28th, 1883.

4. We take the following from an article in the *Grāmavartā Prakāshikā* of the 28th July, headed the "Indian Exchequer:—It is to be regretted

that the Indian Exchequer is in a state of chronic want. The manner in which business is being done at the present time shews that the revenue will not be placed on a satisfactory footing until fresh taxation is resorted to. But it is to be regretted that the utmost limit of taxation having been reached in India, the imposition of any fresh tax becomes very nearly tantamount to the taking away of the last morsel of food from the hands of the people. In England the cost of education incurred by the State per head of population is Re. 1-8-6, but in India Government expends only Ans. 7-3 for education per head of population. In the army the cost per head is one rupee. It is not known whether Government is prepared to reduce the army charges. There can be no doubt that in other departments much wasteful expenditure might be prevented by the employment of natives. There are a great many posts now held by Europeans on high salaries which could be with advantage conferred upon natives who are fully competent to do justice to them on much smaller pay. Natives should be extensively appointed to the Public Works Department.

GRAMVARTA  
PRAKASHIKA.

5. The same paper remarks in reference to the agitation over the case of Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee, that in this matter the authorities in Bengal, from

the Lieutenant-Governor down to the pettiest local officers, are all exercising their ingenuity—they are all busy with Surendra Babu. Whenever he comes to any place, the local authorities tremble with fear and become stupified with the thunders of his eloquence. His movements are watched by spies employed by Government. This is ludicrous as well as shameful. During the whole period from the imprisonment of Surendra Babu to his release from jail, the attitude of the Lieutenant-Governor has been such as to puzzle the public. The police arrangements that were made on the occasion of Surendra Babu's recent visit to Barrackpore were such as would lead one to suppose that the Empire was about to be invaded by a powerful enemy. Who could suppress his laughter at witnessing all these preparations? The exhibition of so much weakness on the part of the ruler of Bengal has been really painful. The editor then proceeds to condemn the action of Mr. Ritchie, the President of the Krishnagur District



Education Committee, in abusing Surendra Babu at a recent meeting of that body when a proposal was made by the Secretary to take into consideration the offer of certain gentlemen of the locality to award to the pupils of the girls' school certain medals with the name of Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee engraven upon them.

6. The *Sanjivani*, of the 28th July, remarks that, after shaking

*SANJIVANI.*  
July 28th, 1883.

An agricultural department for Bengal. off the lethargy of a long time, the Lieutenant-Governor has at length roused himself

to activity. His profound inactivity was really surprising, but now he has inaugurated a beneficial measure. This has inspired the people with hope. Bengal is an agricultural country; but nobody has hitherto made any efforts to improve her agriculture. Extensive fertile tracts of country are lying waste, and nobody turns them to account. Mr. Thompson has decided upon opening an Agricultural Department. If the work of the new department is properly carried on, a new era will be established in the Agriculture of Bengal.

7. The same paper notices with wonder that in the Government

*SANJIVANI.*

Asraf Bibee's case.

Resolution on the case of Asraf Bibee, the only punishment that has been inflicted upon the offending officers of Chittagong, is an expression of the Lieutenant-Governor's regret for their errors of judgment.

8. The same paper makes the following observations in the course

*SANJIVANI.*

The St. James' Hall meeting.

of an article on the "Meeting held at St. James' Hall to protest against the Ilbert Bill."—"According to Sir Alexander Arbuthnot, the agitation caused by the Ilbert Bill is one which can be stopped only by the withdrawal of the Bill. We, however, hold that, for an agitation whose life is race-antagonism, the true remedy lies in a firm determination on the part of Government to walk in the path of justice. Filled with an idea of superiority, the English agitators have reached the extreme limit of impudence. Whenever Government swayed by considerations of justice, seeks to curtail in the slightest degree their pride of superiority; whenever it seeks to confer upon natives equal rights with Europeans, Anglo-Indians are sure to go mad with rage. What is the remedy? The remedy lies in one of two things; either the Government of India should shew both by its acts and professions that it will not allow itself by threats of the agitators to be led away from the path of justice, or else it should plainly give out that it will disregard all considerations of reason and justice and consult the wishes of Anglo-Indians alone. There is no other means of putting a stop to this hostile agitation. If owing to the unreasonable clamour of any party Government were to shrink in the least from doing justice, it might get over its difficulties for the present, but it would be sowing the seeds of future troubles." The day the people find out that Government has shrunk from doing justice for fear of agitation, that day will they learn the lesson that victory lies with the party which can agitate the most powerfully.

9. The same paper exhorts young Bengalies who are impatient of

*SANJIVANI.*

Political independence.

English domination to pause and consider whether the country has yet become fit for political independence. If the English left India today, would the natives be able to successfully carry on the work of Government? Would not there be a struggle for supremacy among the different races of India who are as jealous of one another as ever, but who are kept in order only by the strong arm of the British Government? Would not there be a fear of foreign invasions? Are the people of India able to defend themselves against the attacks of a foreign enemy? Do they possess the unity, the



wealth, the scientific knowledge, the capacity for Government, and the army which a free people can never do without? Before desiring political independence, the people of India should seek to bring about unity and good feelings between the different races who inhabit this country, and should learn the work of government as it is conducted by constitutional means. There should be an expansion of commerce, and increase of the wealth of the country, and spread of education. But what is pre-eminently required is that the people should labour to bring about their own moral regeneration.

SADHARANI,  
July 29th, 1883.

10. We extract the following observations from an article in the *Sádháraní*, of the 29th July, on the case of

Asraf Bibee's case.

Asraf Bibee:—Many perhaps still remember the sufferings of the widow of Fazl Ali, the zemindar of Dohazari, in Chittagong. Last year, about the time when Mr. Rattray the District Superintendent of Police in Pubna, was with a police force besieging the family dwelling-house of Azim Chowdhuri and firing shots, the newspapers first announced the miserable condition of the widow of Fazl Ali. In Pubna, the police wounded and killed men in seeking to maintain peace. The Lieutenant-Governor expressed his regret at the loss of human life, but commended the police because they had firmly done their duty. In regard to the misery brought upon Asraf Bibee, His Honor has remarked that the local officers indeed were in a few instances led into errors of judgment, but their motives were not bad. Those that have carefully read the Lieutenant-Governor's Resolutions on these two cases agree in maintaining that any other faults or virtues His Honor may or may not possess, but one virtue he doubtless possesses, namely the virtue of consistency.

The Lieutenant-Governor remarks, that though considerable objection has been subsequently taken to the proceedings of the local officers of Chittagong in this case, still no objections were raised at the time, and that Tarun Sinha, a respectable resident of Dohazari, who subsequently brought serious charges against the Collector and the Manager of the Court of Wards, did not appear when he was invited by the Manager to come to the house of Fazl Ali. Now, the reason why Tarun Sinha did not appear has not been enquired into; but the Lieutenant-Governor remarks that the fact that he was invited to be present shews that the Manager acted legally and in a public manner. It is such explanations as these that prompt the remark that Europeans do not understand the peculiar circumstances of this country, and thus in their ignorance cause much mischief. Fazl Ali's death was yet a recent event, and the wail of lamentation had yet not ceased in his house, when a police force entered it and began to collect all the moveable property. No European can realize the feelings which these events must have produced in the minds of native gentlemen of the locality—the Lieutenant-Governor has not certainly been able to realize them. Witnessing this visitation of Providence followed by harassment at the hands of Government, the natives of the locality were seized with fear and astonishment, and did not therefore, probably, have the courage to attend even when invited to do so. Some again, had, probably, business which detained them; others may have been detained through sickness. What sort of reasoning is this, that because certain people were invited to be present, therefore the action they had been invited to witness was a right one? And as for law, does the law lay it down that in case a wealthy man dies leaving a minor, the police should, to guard his property, take possession even of the private apartments of his house, even before the wail of mourning had ceased in his family?

In their judgment in a case connected with the present one, the Judges of the High Court made the following remarks:—"Now, so far as



regards the records before us, there is nothing to shew that the safety of the moveable property was in any way threatened. The widow, it is to be observed, is her husband's heiress to a two-anna share in the property." But it appears that in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion there was ground for apprehension as to the safety of the property. When such authorities disagree, it would not look well if the editor were to express any opinion of his on the matter. But the public continues to hold that the action of the authorities in this case was extremely cruel, needlessly hasty, and very high-handed. The decision of the Lieutenant-Governor has not been able to shake this belief.

11. The editor continues the subject in another article, and makes the following observations regarding the decision of the Lieutenant-Governor in the case

Asraf Bibee's case.

of Asraf Bibee:—People are saying that a careful consideration of the two resolutions recorded by the Lieutenant-Governor—one on the Pubna case and the other on the case of Asraf Bibee—shews that, however high-handed may be the acts committed by officers subordinate to him, His Honor's object is to justify them in some way or other. The truth is the public are gradually beginning to suspect that the Lieutenant-Governor lacks the courage to check the high-handedness of public officers.

12. The same paper beseeches Government to direct a supply of a copy of the Weekly Report on Native Papers to each native editor in order to enable him to judge whether what he writes is correctly reported to Government. The editor exhorts his contemporaries of the native press to agitate this matter.

SADHARANI,  
July 29th, 1883.

13. The *Sansodhini*, of the 22nd July, dwells on the inconvenience to which people who have to make any payments owing to such distance of such court or office, the expenses of journey, delay, and, not unoften, the necessity of giving bribes to subordinate officers. All this, the writer suggests, may be removed by a simple expedient, namely, the addition of a column to the existing money-order form, indicating the purpose for which the payment is made. Now that the work of money-orders is being satisfactorily done by the Post office, this suggestion, if adopted, will remove a source of considerable inconvenience. The payer will only have to execute a money-order in favour of the officer in charge of the court or the public office where the money is to be paid, stating in the column which is proposed to be added the purpose for which the money is intended.

SANSODHINI,  
July 22nd, 1883.

14. The *Cháru Vártá* of the 30th July, continues its series of articles headed "Matter for reflection." In the present number, the editor dwells upon the subject of Indian railways. These railways, it is observed, have conferred many advantages upon the people of India; but the gratification one feels at their introduction is not completely free from a feeling of sadness. The capital sunk in these railways has come from England, and the profits therefore go to enrich Englishmen, whilst the people of India have to pay the interest on the capital. The case is the same with the tea, the indigo, the cotton, and the jute industries. The English are sucking dry the life-blood of India, and hence the frequent recurrence of famines.

CHARU VARTÁ.  
July 30th, 1883.

15. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 31st July, contains a long article on the salt duty. The writer observes, that the monopoly in salt was first created for the benefit of the servants of the East India Company. The people of India obtained salt at a very cheap rate so long as the monopoly

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
July 31st, 1883.

The salt duty.



lasted. But the British public soon began a selfish agitation against its continuance, and ultimately succeeded in obtaining its abolition. English salt now began to be imported into India, and Government imposed a heavy duty upon it. The consequence of this was that the price of salt was increased; no attention was, however, paid to this. The cotton duties have been recently repealed ostensibly for the benefit of the Indian people. But if this had been the object, the salt duty should have been first repealed. A repeal of the salt duty would not have caused a greater loss of revenue than that which has been caused by the repeal of the cotton duties. A repeal of the duty on salt would have led to the manufacture and cheapening of that article in this country; while the abolition of the cotton duties has entailed a loss of revenue upon Government without benefiting the people. The editor concludes by advising Government to re-establish the monopoly in salt.

BURDWAN  
SANJIVANI,  
July 31st, 1883.

16. The same paper gives a summary of Chapter VI of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, and remarks that the omission from the Bill of the provisions regarding the service of a notice upon the ryot which was so long an important feature of suits for enhancement of rent will greatly benefit the zemindar.

SANACHAR,  
August 1st, 1883.

17. We extract the following observations from an editorial paragraph in the *Sahachar* of the 1st August:—It is needless to recur to the subject of the injury which the outstall system is doing to the country. Native editors have always complained of this injury, but the authorities have hitherto turned a deaf ear to their representations. It is said the Lieutenant-Governor has promised to reform the present system. Is there any truth in this allegation? Welcome news, even if untrue, is good.

SANACHAR.

18. We extract the following observations from an article in the same paper headed the "Proposed appellate benches:—"It is almost certain that the public will be exceedingly benefited by the establishment of appellate benches in the mofussil. The High Court's delay is notorious. There will not remain much cause for delay after these appellate benches are established. It may also be expected that the cost of litigation will be somewhat reduced. The High Court on the other hand will be able to command sufficient leisure, and to do justice to its appointed work. It is therefore exceedingly desirable to establish appellate benches. But the manner in which it is proposed to appoint the judges is such as cannot be approved of. One of the two judges should be selected from the ranks of pleaders of established reputation.

SANACHAR.

19. The same paper thanks Government for its deciding upon the creation of an agricultural department for Bengal. This step will render illustrious the administration of the Hon'ble Rivers Thompson. The school that is proposed to be established at Nasrigunj should be thrown open to the public.

SANACHAR.

20. The same paper notices with gratification that the Lieutenant-Governor proposes to honour Babu Joykrishna Mukherji of Utterparah with a visit. His Honor is daily becoming more and more popular with natives. They would have been exceedingly delighted if in the matter of the Ilbert Bill, His Honor had not taken the side of narrow-minded Englishmen.

SANACHAR.

21. The same paper is glad to learn that there is no truth in the rumour that Lord Ripon intends shortly to resign his office. The writer exhorts the native community to lose no time in praying for an extension of Lord Ripon's term of office.



22. The *Murshidabad Patriká*, of the 27th July, condemns the action of certain people in Southern India in asking Government to legislate on the subject of widow re-marriage.

MURSHIDABAD  
PATRIKA,  
July 27th, 1883.

The people of India have come to love subjection, and are extremely given to imitation. In the fervour of their loyalty they ask Government even to interfere in their social and religious matters. This action of the Hindus in Southern India will prove a dangerous precedent. The prayer to Government to extend its interference to social matters is a proof of weakness on the part of the native community, and in view of it, the members of that community ought to be ashamed of their efforts to obtain local self-government.

23. The same paper directs the attention of Government to the low pay allowed to officers in charge of branch and sub-post offices.

MURSHIDABAD  
PATRIKA.

Pay of officers in charge of branch and sub-post offices.

These men are very hard-worked, but receive so low remuneration for their labours that it is difficult for them to keep their body and soul together.

24. The *Paridarshak*, of the 29th July, observes that when Sylhet was transferred to the Chief Commissionership of Assam, the inhabitants made a petition to the Government of India praying that the transfer might not be sanctioned. In his reply, Lord Northbrook gave them the following assurances:—

PARIDARSHAK,  
July 29th, 1883.

Administration of Sylhet.

“Neither the transfer of the district nor the passing of an Act which formally withdraws the district from the jurisdiction of certain authorities in Bengal will make any substantial change in the mode of administering Sylhet. There will certainly be no change whatever in the system of law and judicial procedure under which the inhabitants of Sylhet have hitherto lived, nor in the principles which apply throughout Bengal to the settlement and collection of land revenue.”

Relying on these assurances given by the Viceroy, the inhabitants of Sylhet remained silent. But now it is found that the Assam Government has, contrary to the Resolution of the Government of India recorded in 1874, introduced into Sylhet the Local Rates Regulation, the Regulation relating to the Chowkidari Tax, and other legislative enactments framed by it; and who knows that the draft Land Revenue Regulation which has been submitted to the Government of India will not be similarly introduced. The inhabitants of Sylhet possess very little in common with the inhabitants of Assam, and they pray that the pledge given by Lord Northbrook's Government may remain inviolate.

25. The same paper approves of the views expressed by the Lieutenant-Governor on the subject of the admission of females into the classes of the Calcutta Medical College, but thinks that the standard of qualification required of candidates for admission should be lowered so that those who shall have passed the Entrance examination of the University may be eligible as pupils. The editor thus commences the article:—More than a year has elapsed since Mr. Rivers Thompson became Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, but he has not yet done one good act. Under Sir Ashley Eden's rule the people were not very happy; they did not regard him as a sincere friend. But they had more confidence in, and respect for Mr. Thompson. They believed that Mr. Thompson would fully support the line of policy according to which Lord Ripon desires to govern India, and that he would follow that policy in the administration of Bengal. But Mr. Thompson's actions have disappointed public expectation. The Lieutenant-Governor is at every turn seeking to frustrate the good intentions of the Supreme Government. Mr. Thompson

PARIDARSHAK,

Admission of females into the Medical College classes.



witnessed the discredit incurred by the Government of Bombay in having opposed the local self-government scheme of Lord Ripon, and consequently he had not the courage to court that discredit. He began by his writings, speeches, and conduct to give himself out as one of the chief advocates of Lord Ripon's liberal policy. But how long could people be taken in by words of mouth? Mr. Thompson's true disposition became soon revealed, so that at present he is the most unpopular ruler in India. No other Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal was ever in such a sorry plight. But in the dark firmament of Mr. Thomson's Bengal Administration a small star has at length made its appearance. He has at length done an act which deserves the unqualified approbation of the public.

PURVA PRATIDHWANI,  
July 30th, 1883.

26. The *Purva Pratidhwani*, of the 30th July, directs the attention of Government to the rude and unjust treatment to which Rajah Hurish Chundra has been for a long time past subjected at the hands of the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The editor asks that justice be done to the aggrieved Rajah.

Rajah Hurish Chundra and the Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

PURVA PRATIDHWANI.

27. The same paper makes the following observations on the case of Asraf Bibee :—The decision of Government on the case of Asraf Bibee has been published.

Asraf Bibee's case.

The accused have all been proved innocent. The proceedings taken in connection with the late case were all taken for the protection of the property of the minor. Indeed, if the Collector and the Manager of the Court of Wards had not promptly come forward to protect the property, there would have arisen considerable difficulties. It is impossible on such occasions to follow the strict path of justice. Although, therefore, certain proceedings in this case lacked leniency, we are nevertheless, not prepared to find fault for this. We agree with Government in commending the careful manner in which the mohurir, Chandra Mohan, discharged his duties. The appointment of a separate manager, a Mahomedan, to the estate of Fazl Ali will only, so far as we can see, cause an increase of expenditure. We believe that the affairs of this estate, like those of other estates, could well be administered by the General Manager of the Court of Wards, who is at the sudder station of Chittagong.

PURVA PRATIDHWANI.

28. The editor of the same paper expresses his regret that in the last issue of his paper, a letter\* containing some unjust reflections on the conduct of the Sudder munsif of Chittagong was inserted through inadvertence.

The Sudder munsif of Chittagong.

\* See paragraph 8 of Report for 28th July 1883.

RUNGPORE DIK  
PRAKASH,  
August 2nd, 1883.

29. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 2nd August, learns with gratification that the Lieutenant-Governor will carefully consider the whole subject of

The outstill system.

excise law, and that his object is to put down the demon of intemperance.

RUNGPORE DIK  
PRAKASH.

30. The same paper contains an article highly eulogistic of Dr. K. D. Ghosh, the able and popular Civil Surgeon of Rungpore. The inhabitants of

Dr. K. D. Ghosh.

the district are extremely sorry to hear of his approaching transfer to Bankoorah, and pray to Government that his services may be spared to Rungpore for the sanitary improvement of which he has laboured so assiduously and successfully.

PRATINIDHI,  
August 2nd, 1883.

31. The *Pratinidhi*, of the 2nd August, thus comments on the reply given by the Secretary of State for India to the deputation of Anglo-Indians which recently waited upon him on the subject of the Ilbert Bill :—"After what has been said by Lord Kimberley, we may fairly conclude that the passing of the Ilbert Bill into law is inevitable." Let India rejoice. The good

The Ilbert Bill.



name of Lord Ripon will be proclaimed for all time. Let the people of India be comforted. The Empress of India is true to her word.

32. The following observations are extracted from an article in the same paper on the case of Asraf Bibee:—As

PRATINIDHI,  
August 2nd, 1883.

Asraf Bibee's case.

Mr. Badcock's report on the Chittagong case has not been given to the public, there is no other means of forming an opinion on this case than that furnished by the Resolution of the Lieutenant-Governor. The Bengal Government ought to know that the Chittagong case has produced a great agitation in the country. If therefore all the facts of this case were, as far as practicable, given to the public, the dissatisfaction of the public would soon disappear. In everything the light of publicity should be sought. The day has gone by when it was an article of the popular creed that the words of rulers should be implicitly believed. People now want to know the reasons of every occurrence. Europeans, like the editor of the *Englishman*, may look upon this as a sure proof of a seditious spirit, but it is hoped that high-placed officials like the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal will regard this as a good sign of the times and rejoice. If out of deference to the spirit of enquiry which has manifested itself among the people, and in view of the powerful ebullition of feeling which is witnessed in the Bengali community, Mr. Thompson had published Mr. Badcock's report with his Resolution, the native press would not have now been deluged with adverse criticism. It is to be regretted that the Lieutenant-Governor has only defended the local authorities of Chittagong, and has contented himself with only expressing his regret for their actions. His Honor remarks that the intentions of those officers were good, but that the severity of their action was owing to their errors of judgment. Such errors, however, ought not to be pardoned. Such errors on the part of those who possess immense powers are really dangerous. What is sport to public officers is death to the people. If Government really desires to make light of the high-handed acts of public officers by describing them as errors, it should at least curtail the large powers which are now vested in them. The evil consequences of vesting one and the same officer with judicial and executive authority are patent to everybody. Reference is frequently made to the high-handedness of magisterial officers. The evil is wholly due to the cause indicated. If instead of administering a little rebuke and expressing a little regret, as he has done, His Honor had inflicted some severe punishment upon the despotical officers of Chittagong, there would have been justice done. The remarks of the Lieutenant-Governor to the contrary, notwithstanding, great injustice has been done to the pleader, Purna Chandra, and the zemindar, Tarun Sinha. Henceforth people will not come forward to help the oppressed or to check the high-handed.

33. The *Education Gazette*, of the 3rd August, fully recognizes the necessity that has arisen of establishing a national fund, and exhorts all classes of the

EDUCATION GAZETTE,  
August 3rd, 1883.

A National Fund.

people to come forward in its aid. The managers of the fund should first of all start a weekly newspaper in England, and entrust the task of editing it to a competent person. Native editors in India should become the agents and correspondents of that paper when it is established. The editor should act in consultation with the Members of the Fund Committee, who should be selected from among the members of the different representative associations in the country.

34. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 3rd August, remarks that the Lieutenant-Governor has at length directed his attention to the outstill system, the introduc-

ARYA DARPAN,  
August 3rd, 1883.

The outstill system.

tion of which by his predecessor has led to a fearful increase of drunkenness among the people. If His Honor really desires the good of the country, he should lose no time in abolishing the outstill system.



SULABHA SAMACHAR,  
August 4th, 1883.

35. A correspondent of the *Sulabha Samachar*, of the 4th August, writing from the village of Panchdona, in the Dacca district, directs the attention of

The outstill system.

the Lieutenant-Governor to the fearful increase of drunkenness among the inhabitants of that village caused by the introduction of the outstill system.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
August 5th, 1883.

36. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 5th August, contains an article on the approaching International Exhibition at Calcutta. The editor points out the desir-

The International Exhibition.

ability of distributing in every village in Bengal printed copies of a paper of information in Bengali regarding the Exhibition.

DACCA PRAKASH.

37. The same paper makes observations regarding the case of Asraf Bibee, which are similar to those noticed in paragraph 28 of our last report.

Asraf Bibee's case.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,  
July 30th, 1883.

38. The *Sar Sudhanidhi*, of the 30th July, directs the attention of the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta to the insufficiency in the supply of filtered

Insufficient water-supply.

water in wards Nos. 6 and 7. It is strange that, while the rate-payers of Calcutta are not allowed a sufficient quantity of water, the municipality is about to extend the water-supply to the suburbs.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
August 6th, 1883.

39. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 6th August, contains an article headed "A National Fund." The editor remarks that the proposal to establish a national

A national fund.

fund is a novel one. Considering the circumstances of this country, there exists the necessity for such a fund. Wealth is power. If natives had wealth they could do a great deal of good to their country. Although the British Government is a despotism, but it is moulded by political facts. The character of any particular Mahomedan administration depended upon the personal whims of the ruler, not so the British administration which maintains through all changes a uniformity of character. The British Government does not take a step without calculation. Under Mahomedan rule, the people were happy or the reverse, in proportion as the ruler happened to be weak or the reverse. Under British rule the happiness or the misery of the people depends in a large measure upon the advanced or the backward condition they may be in. Like a miser the British Government has locked up the natural rights of the subjects in its own iron safe, and grants them to the people bit by bit as they shew increased ability. Now, political agitation furnishes a test of this ability. "Knock, and it shall be opened unto you." Only after repeated knocking at the door of Government, does Government open it. Political agitation is the only means by which this door may be opened. To carry on a political agitation successfully, both money and men are required. The people of this country have, in some measure, learned to carry on political agitations. For this purpose a knowledge of certain things is necessary. Thus, the people should know what rights belong to them, and what among them have been reserved by Government. Then, the people should learn what rights they are fit to obtain; and in the last place, they should learn to have confidence in Government, and like a child which constantly teases its parents for this and that, they should have the courage and the power to make demands upon Government. The people have in some measure acquired these qualifications. The English are a great nation. The writer is not speaking of Anglo-Indians. There are many great men in England who are ready to teach the people of India the art of carrying on political agitation, and to help them in other ways. What the people want is money. It is not meant to be said that India has no money in it; what is meant is that India has become poorer. Nevertheless, she possesses sufficient means for



carrying on political agitation. The people will not be successful so long as their agitation is confined within the limits of this country. The interests of natives clash with those of Anglo-Indians, so that, one party cannot be benefited without injuring the other. Great men, however, are not blinded by selfishness, and do not keep others out of their rights. How much greatness Anglo-Indians possess has been seen repeatedly, and particularly in connection with the Jurisdiction Bill. The interests of Englishmen in England do not directly clash with those of natives; many, again, in England believe that England will be happier in proportion as India's grievances are redressed. It is therefore desirable that the agitation should be made in England. But this requires money. The editor observes that all classes in India should be asked to subscribe in aid of the National Fund, and that the Committee entrusted with its management should be composed of representatives of the different races and castes in India.

40. The same paper contains under the head of "Miscellaneous,"

Lament of an English editor.

a poem, in which the editor of an Anglo-Indian paper (the editor of the *Englishman*)

is described as giving expression to his feeling of disappointment and mortification at the failure of his efforts to discredit Lord Ripon, and to obtain his recall. He implores Lord Ripon to resign and return to England, as nothing short of that will give him peace. Lord Ripon, he says, has made him mad, so that he is now at a loss to know what to do. His life has become a burden to him. As an editor, he cannot do his work properly. He thought, he would be able by the force of his writings to lead Lord Ripon to resign, and for this purpose he gave currency to scandals, and freely drew upon his imagination. But Lord Ripon was unmoved, and the editor was baffled. Abuse proved powerless. Then the editor thought of inciting Anglo-Indians, and East Indians and European ladies to oppose Lord Ripon. They all raised a powerful outcry, established a defence fund, sent Mr. Branson to England, and secured the co-operation of Lethbridge, Arbuthnot, and Stephen. Now, they thought they would be able to send Lord Ripon out of India. The *Times* hurled its thunders, and many other newspapers followed suit. There was great agitation in England. Still Lord Ripon was unmoved and only smiled. What was to be done next? The editor now began to have disturbed slumbers; and to have happy dreams which were soon dispelled. What is to be done now? Sometimes to escape the anguish of his heart, the editor thinks of becoming a convert to Islam, and of going on a pilgrimage to Mecca. Again he thinks of becoming a Vaisnab, and of retiring to Brindabun. Colonel Olcott and Buddhism next suggest themselves as offering the best solace. He concludes by beseeching Lord Ripon to retire if only to spare his life. If His Excellency but do so, he promises he will sing his praises, and vote him a golden statue.

41. Referring to the judgment of the High Court in the recent case of assault upon Mrs. Hume, the same paper makes the following observations:—Those

Mrs. Hume's case.

that gave evidence against the mehter (the defendant) were almost all of them respectable people. Again, it is perfectly inconceivable that Mrs. Hume should have purposely instituted a false case. The mehter stated in his defence that he was a mehter, and that it was simply impossible for him to have committed the offence with which he was charged. The mehter is stated to have attempted the offence in broad daylight, and at a time when, in a room adjacent to that where Mrs. Hume was, there was a European ayah, and Mr. Hume was himself in the house. Consequently it becomes difficult to believe that the offence was attempted at such a time, and particularly by a low caste man. But who knows what

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
July 6th, 1883.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA.



evil spirit will seize a person at any time? In a fit of anger or of other passion people lose all sense of right and wrong. No other case as bad as the present one was ever heard of in this country. Europeans often go to other places, leaving their honour and dignity in the custody of their menial servants, in full confidence that these servants will not have the courage to do anything wrong. Europeans may well feel this confidence, inasmuch as, not to speak of menial servants, even native gentlemen, should they ever be tempted to go wrong, do not venture to commit any assault upon respectable European females. The lower classes of natives and, for the matter of that, many among the respectable classes also fear Englishmen and Englishwomen, just as they fear their gods and goddesses. The wonder, therefore, is that the mehter overcame this fear and committed assault upon a very respectable European female. And not only did he overcome this fear, but also the fear that there was another European lady in a room close by. He did not even heed that Mr. Hume himself was in the house. Europeans, it seems, are now placed in some difficulty. They cannot do without placing their honour and dignity in the keeping of their menial servants, and yet after this mehter's case they will not, probably, trust them as implicitly as before. Again, it was not only at Mr. Hume's house that such a case of assault took place. Within the last two or three months four such cases have occurred, in three of which the defendants have been convicted and punished.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
July 6th, 1883.

42. The same paper makes the following observations in an editorial paragraph :—"The Jurisdiction Bill has taught us a good deal in the direction of

Rajah Sib Prasad.  
political agitation. Our readers know that Rajah Sib Prasad expressed himself against the Jurisdiction Bill from his place in the Indian Legislative Council. He has become unpopular with natives since he committed this offence. We have already published the details of the manner in which (by burning him in effigy and otherwise) natives have shewn their want of confidence in him. Recently, his fellow-countrymen have made a petition to the Governor-General, praying that as Rajah Sib Prasad is not fit to be a member of the Indian Legislative Council, he might be allowed to retire, and that a competent person might be appointed in his stead. But appointment to the Legislative Council depends upon the pleasure of Government. If, in accordance with the wishes of the petitioners, Lord Ripon does not ask the Rajah to retire from the Council, then Government should not any longer accept the views which might be expressed by the Rajah on any subject during his continuance in the Council as the views of the natives of India, inasmuch as he is not their representative."

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA.

43. The same paper points out that Mr. Henderson, the Chief Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta, while he has sentenced a European, a habitual offender, to only one year's imprisonment for stealing articles of the value of Rs. 50, has committed a native, who also is a habitual offender, to the sessions for stealing a few seers of flour and a few rupees. Europeans, it would seem, oppose the Ilbert Bill through fear lest such justice should cease to be administered.

SUBARNI,  
August 6th, 1883.

44. The *Surabhi*, of the 6th August, notices with gratification that his fellow-countrymen have at length found out Rajah Sib Prasad. They have sent a petition to the Government of India praying that, as the Rajah is not their representative, he should not continue a member of the Indian Legislative Council. It would be well for all parties if Lord Ripon acceded to their prayer.



45. The *Samaya*, of the 6th August, dwells upon the poverty of India, and the means by which it may be removed. These are : (1) an improvement of agriculture ; (2) a development of the mineral resources of the country ; and (3) an expansion of commerce.

SAMAYA,  
August 6th, 1883.

46. The same paper contains an article on mass education. The Editor observes that in Bengal three per cent of the males are at school, and six per cent can read and write ; while among females one in a thousand is at school and two can read and write. That the masses in Bengal are steeped in ignorance is due to their poverty, to the indifference of the zemindars to education, to niggardliness on the part of Government, to the teachings of the Mahomedan religion, to a lack of perseverance on the part of Hindus and Mahomedans, and to the spirit of narrow exclusiveness which marks the Hindu religion. The first three, however, are the chief causes. The writer points out the desirability of reducing public expenditure in other directions, and increasing the grant on education. An education cess also may be advantageously imposed upon the zemindars. The whole subject should be persistently agitated.

SAMAYA.

47. A correspondent of the *Som Prakash*, of the 6th August, directs the attention of the authorities to the miserable condition of the road which, commencing from south Baraset, passes through the railway station at Magrahat. If this road were kept in repairs, the passenger traffic at Magrahat would soon increase.

SOM PRAKASH.  
August 6th, 1883.

48. Another correspondent of the same paper, writing from Pidulia, in the district of Furreedpore, directs the attention of Government to the condition of that village. It now abounds in jungle, and is infested with wild beasts. Even the public roads have become impassable owing to their being covered with dense jungle. Repeated representations have been made to the authorities, but in vain.

SOM PRAKASH.

49. One writing to the same paper, and calling himself a friend of the zemindars, remarks that disputes between landlords and tenants will go on increasing until the zemindars learn to improve the condition of their ryots, and thus to make them contented. At present the zemindar pays but little attention to their condition : no matter whether they starve, he must enjoy the luxuries of life. He now rarely visits his estates, and when he does so, the object is not to redress the grievances of the ryots, but to get an enhancement of rent or to levy an abwab. The ryots are left to the tender mercies of his unscrupulous servants. It therefore behoves Government to enact a law laying down that no zemindar will be allowed to indulge in luxuries until he shall have spent a portion of his income on improvements in his estate, in laying up stores of grain, and money sufficient to pay the Government revenue for the next year. A zemindar who does not do so should have his estate brought under the management of the Court of Wards. The zemindars should be required to submit to Government periodical returns shewing the amount of supervision they exercise over their own affairs.

SOM PRAKASH.

50. The same paper contains an article headed "Thoughts for the future of India." The Editor remarks that the Ilbert Bill suggests thoughts for the future of this country. The attitude of Europeans towards this measure, and their action in reference to it, naturally suggest these thoughts. If the Indian administration is to be conducted under such circumstances,

SOM PRAKASH.



then neither Government nor Europeans nor natives will be happy. Natives will in the end suffer. The more Government shews its anxiety to be just, the more bitter will be the opposition that will be shewn by Europeans, both to Government and to natives; and in the conflict natives, who constitute the weaker party, will suffer. The people of India are gradually becoming more and more energetic, and it is not likely that they will patiently submit for all time to be ruled unjustly by Government, or to be trampled upon by Europeans. In the conflict that will be inevitable, natives will be worsted and exterminated. Government, however, will be a loser in that case. It will not be possible to make good the loss by planting colonies of Europeans in India. The malarious fever will not, probably, spare the colonists. It is therefore very necessary that the ill-feeling which now exists between Europeans and natives should be removed. But how is this result to be brought about? A fusion of the races is impossible. The only way in which the object could be attained would be by placing both natives and Europeans on a footing of perfect political equality. This would not be impracticable. The experiment was tried with success under the Roman Empire.

SOM PRAKASH,  
August 6th, 1883.

51. The same paper observes that India has lived under British rule for upwards of a century, and still there has been no improvement in her industries.

Decadence of native industries. There are three distinct causes which account for this: namely, (1) foreign competition, (2) the political subjection of India, and (3) incapacity on the part of native traders to understand the true principles of commerce. Foreign competition and the ascendancy of free trade principles, (the latter is only possible by reason of the political subjection of India), have combined to ruin native industries. The ignorance of the secrets of success shown by native traders is notorious. They, it seems, are not aware that honesty is the passport to success.

SOM PRAKASH.

52. The opponents of the Ilbert Bill, remarks the same paper, are hoping against hope that the measure will not be passed into law. Even after the reply

The Ilbert Bill. given by the Secretary of State to the deputation which recently waited upon him in connection with this Bill, and the recent speech of Mr. Bright in support of it, they are still full of hopes, and labouring to attain their object. This, however, is not to be wondered at, nor is this the question which the Editor would now discuss. The question is, was the Government of India justified in following the liberal policy which it has followed in the matter of this Bill? Now, it has always been the practice of Government to pass all Bills relating to India in India itself after the fullest discussion and agitation had taken place in the country. There has been no case in which a Bill has been passed into law after an agitation over it had taken place in England. The Bill which conferred upon native Judges civil jurisdiction over Europeans was stoutly opposed by Europeans, but it was passed in India. By permitting the Ilbert Bill to be discussed in England Lord Ripon has brought about the following results: namely, (1) that the Government of India has voluntarily surrendered its power of legislation; (2) that the Bill may or may not be approved of by Parliament; (3) that if the Bill be not passed Europeans in India will become very powerful, and the Government of India will have to depend upon their favour; (4) that if the Government of India loses its independence, it will be powerless for doing any good to the people of India; and (5) that if the Bill be not passed the people of India will lose their confidence in the British Government. It is thus clear that Lord Ripon did not do well in approving of the English agitation over the Ilbert Bill. The measure ought to have been passed into law after consulting the views of the local Governments. If the



precedent now set of having laws relating to India passed in England be followed, the maintenance of the Government of India will cease to be necessary.

SOM PRAKASH,  
August 6th, 1883.

#### Appellate Benches.

53. The same paper makes the following observations in the course of an article on the "Proposed Appellate Benches:"—Increase in the number of tribunals is a means of increasing litigation and of increasing poverty. The people showed great forbearance when there were no courts, but now on the slightest provocation they go to law, and the expensiveness of litigation ruins them. The Editor is not therefore glad to notice that the scheme of appellate benches will shortly be brought into operation. What benefit will people receive from appellate benches? The establishment of these benches will lighten the labours of the High Court Judges in appeal cases. At present it is doubtful whether they work for six months in the year, and when these benches are established they will have more leisure. The High Court Judges are paid high salaries. Instead of therefore appointing new Judges to these benches, it would be well to transfer four Judges of the High Court to the four benches which are to be established in the first instance, and to associate with them Babu Mohendra Nath Bose, Babu Brojendra Kumar Seal, and two other equally able judicial officers.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,  
August 6th, 1883.

54. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 6th August, observes in reference to an article in the *Pioneer* newspaper, in which the Judges of the Calcutta High Court are stated, with one exception, to have opposed the Ilbert Bill, that the Judges have resorted to special pleading. According to them there is no necessity for the Bill at the present time, nor is it likely that any such necessity will arise during the next twenty years. But both Mr. Ilbert and Lord Ripon have clearly pointed out that considerable administrative inconvenience is being felt owing to the fact that native civilians do not possess criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects. How can it then be said that the Bill is not necessary? The passing of the Bill may not lead to a complete removal of the administrative inconvenience referred to, but it can never be reasonable to reject a partial remedy. The High Court Judges are entitled to the gratitude of the public for having spoken well of native civilians, but it is doubtful whether the Government of India, the author of the civil service, which bears Lord Lytton's name, will thank them for the strictures they have passed upon the members of that service. These officers may not be, in point of ability, equal to native civilians who have passed their examinations in England, but nobody can say that they do not possess the amount of learning and intelligence which are required to try a European offender. It is true they have never been to England or mixed in English society, but surely that ought not to be an insuperable objection, considering that European civilians fresh from England are vested with powers to try natives. It is objections like these which lead people to think that Europeans consider natives to be their inferiors in every respect. Of course if the High Court Judges also are of this opinion, there is nothing to be said. They admit the ability and moral qualifications of native civilians who have passed their examinations in England. Why not vest at least these men with criminal jurisdiction over Europeans? The objection is, what is the good of conferring this jurisdiction upon two or four men? With that the High Court Judges have nothing to do. The *Pioneer* refers to the prevalence of false evidence among natives, and regards this as an objection to vest native civilians with jurisdiction over Europeans. Those that lay stress upon this argument proceed upon three distinct presumptions, namely (1) that natives bring false cases only against



Europeans and not against natives; (2) that European Magistrates alone can detect false evidence, and that native Magistrates cannot; and (3) that even if native Magistrates are able to detect false witnesses, they will, to punish the European defendants, deliberately and knowingly rely upon false testimony and convict the European defendants. Now, one may sooner swallow a camel or an elephant than believe in the correctness of such presumptions. But there may be a fourth presumption against the proposal to grant criminal jurisdiction over Europeans to native civilians—a presumption which the opponents of the Bill would suppress. It is this: that if the Ilbert Bill becomes law, the indigo and tea-planters and other high-handed Europeans, who are now seldom prosecuted, and rarely punished, even if prosecuted, will cease to enjoy this advantage. It is to be regretted that the High Court Judges have not been able to adduce any fresh arguments against the Bill. But why blame them for this? Nobody can show any reasons against the measure. This indeed is a defect of the Bill for which Mr. Ilbert is responsible.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,  
August 6th, 1883.

55. The same paper observes that, though there has been an increase of population in India, still this increase has not been so large as to necessitate emigration. The difficulty of earning a livelihood, however, has assumed so serious dimensions that Indian labourers have now begun to go to foreign lands in quest of employment. This indeed is painful. While Europeans after a few days residence in India return wealthy men to their native land, natives of this fertile country are leaving her shores to earn the means of livelihood in foreign lands. Nevertheless it would not matter much if they went of their own free will. But the foolish people are enticed away by coolie recruiters from their homes, and are induced by false promises to register themselves as emigrants. They work in foreign lands and many die there. There they are helpless, and are subjected to cruel treatment at the hands of their employers. The emigrants to the labour districts in India fare much better. Government watches over their interests. It is otherwise with Indian coolies who emigrate to Mauritius or to Australia. It behoves Government to come to their aid. Those that are interested in the emigration of Indian coolies to those places now complain of the rules framed by Government in the interests of the coolies. Government, however, instead of relaxing the stringency of these rules should increase it.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

56. The same paper asks why the Rev. Lal Bihary Dey, who is senior to Mr. Booth in the service, and is the senior professor of the Hooghly College, has not been appointed to act for Mr. Griffiths, the Principal of that college. It is apparently the crime of colour which has stood in the way of Mr. Dey's promotion.

BHARAT MIHIR,  
August 7th, 1883.

57. We extract the following observations from an article in the *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 7th August, headed the "Error of Government in the matter of Appellate Benches:"—"We wrote last week that one appellate bench would not be able to overtake the appeal cases that would come from two districts. Among the four districts of the Dacca Division, Furreedpore may be the smallest, but it may be asserted with confidence that one bench will not be able to dispose of the appeals even of the two districts of Dacca and Furreedpore. We here purposely speak of two and not three districts, because we do not even venture to contemplate the possibility of one bench disposing of the appeals of three districts. It is not possible in this Kali Yug that the Judges will acquire any divine powers as soon as they sit on the bench. If a case were to be disposed

Appellate Benches.



of after hearing the whole of it, one bench would not be able to dispose of the appeals even of one large district. The Secretary of State has sanctioned the establishment of four appellate benches at the outset. The number of such benches must not in the end exceed eleven. We do not understand why eleven should be the maximum number of appellate benches. Besides the second class districts there are in Bengal and Behar 30 complete districts. Assam of course, which is composed of three large districts, is excluded from this calculation. Of the three Assam districts, Sylhet and Cachar are each of them not smaller than any district in Bengal. How eleven benches will be able to overtake the work of appeal cases of so many districts passes our comprehension." The Editor proceeds to observe that the civilian Judges and the Subordinate Judges, of which the benches will be composed, are not likely to inspire much confidence. The former do not possess much ability in judicial matters, while the Subordinate Judges as a class lack independence. It is not known whether the Secretary of State has purposely excluded pleaders from the privilege of being selected as Judges for the appellate benches. There cannot, however, be any doubt as to the fact that he has purposely omitted all reference to the salary of the native Judge. The two Judges who shall sit on an appellate bench should be given the same powers and privileges.

58. The same paper thinks that the time has not yet come when, Bengali as a subject of study in the higher classes of colleges, Bengali could be substituted as a subject of study for Sanskrit. Bengali is yet a very imperfect language.

SHARAT MIHIE,  
August 6th, 1883.

59. The same paper is exceedingly gratified to notice that Mr. White, the President of the Madras Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association, who is now in England, has expressed himself as being in favour of the Ilbert Bill, and that he regards Eurasians as natives of India. The Editor remarks that it behoves Eurasians to join natives in all matters.

SHARAT MIHIE.

60. The same paper remarks that it now seems certain that modifications will be introduced into the Ilbert Bill. The measure is of course imperfect, but it is not desirable to introduce such modifications into it as may have a tendency to violate its fundamental principles. Some fear that the uncovenanted civilians will be excluded from the privilege of trying Europeans. But there is no ground for this fear. Between them and native civilians, who have passed their examinations in England, there is only the difference of pay. If they are excluded, their exclusion will be tantamount to their exclusion from the civil service, and this cannot but affect the principles of the Ilbert Bill.

SHARAT MIHIE.

61. The same paper observes that the more the Bengal Tenancy Bill is considered, the stronger becomes the conviction that if the measure is passed into law in its present shape, neither the landlord nor the tenant will be benefited in any way, and that the relations between the parties, already unsatisfactory, will be rendered worse than ever. If this Bill becomes law, certain expensive proceedings will have to be taken at the outset, but it is not clear what will be gained in return for the expense to be incurred. Sections 7 and 8 of the Bill provide for a detailed survey of all khamar lands; section 9 for the preparation of a register of such lands, sections 10 to 12 provides for appeal, and section 13 indicates the effect of a registration of khamar lands. In chapter V the landlord is given the right of pre-emption. Now, the landlord can practically convert an occupancy holding into khamar, and it may therefore so happen that, while the preparation of the register of khamar land is going on, ryoti land may be converted into

SHARAT MIHIE.



khamar and *vice versa*. Thus there will be no agreement between the entries in the register and the actual state of things. Again, when a ryot dies without heirs, his land will come into the possession of the zemindar, who may convert it into khamar land. Thus it is clear that the register, the preparation of which will cost so much, will have become a dead letter before it actually comes into use. Chapter VI provides for the preparation of a table of rates. This will prove an expensive and impracticable task. It will take nearly four years to prepare a table which will remain in force only for a period of ten years. Those that have framed the Bengal Tenancy Bill are not acquainted with the real condition of the country. They have devised a measure which aims at remedying evils which exist in Bengal and Behar—provinces which widely differ from each other. The Editor concludes by suggesting the desirability of appointing a Commission to enquire into the relations between landlords and tenants in Mymensingh, Backergunge, Dacca, Nuddea, Jessore, and Furreedpore.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,  
August 3rd, 1883.

62. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 3rd August, suggests the appointment of a Royal Commission to enquire into and report upon Indian expenditure. The Commission should come to India to prosecute the necessary enquiries.

SAMVAD  
PRABHAKAR.

63. The same paper remarks that the time has come when Act XI of 1806 may be repealed with safety. The existing arrangements for the provisioning of troops on march inflict great hardship and loss upon zemindars.

Provisioning of troops on march.

SAMBAD PURNA-  
CHANDRODAYA,  
August 8th, 1883.

64. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 8th August, dwells upon the desirability of establishing a native press association. This will, if established, prove of considerable use, both to Government and native editors.

A Native Press Association.

SAMVAD PURNA-  
CHANDRODAYA,  
August 4th, 1883.

65. The same paper, of the 4th August, asks Government to abolish the out-still system in villages.

The out still system.

SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
August 7th, 1883.

66. The *Samāchār Chandrikā*, of the 7th August, gives an account of a severe assault recently committed in Calcutta by a drunken East Indian upon a native coachman.

A native coachman assaulted by a drunken East Indian.

SAMBAD BAHIKÁ,  
July 26th, 1883.

67. The following is a translation of a letter published in the *Balasore Sambād Bāhiká*, of the 26th July, purporting to have been written by the "People, Beliapal thana."

Price of salt.

It is true Government has reduced the salt duty, but the object for which the duty was reduced has not been secured. For the last two or three months we have been purchasing salt at the rate which prevailed years ago, though we know that the duty on salt has been reduced. We therefore do not approve of the policy which dictated the reduction of the duty—a policy that tends to enrich the salt merchants only. We have pressed the matter often and often on the notice of Government, but unfortunately no one hears us. O! what a doleful tale it is!

We once asked a salt contractor the cause of this injustice, but in reply we were told "that the price of salt was as cheap as it possibly could be under existing circumstances, namely 2 annas a seer, and that the price would have been still higher had not the duty been reduced."

This explanation of his, we took it, proceeded from selfish motives, for it was brought to our knowledge that the Liverpool salt was selling at 1 anna and 9 pies a seer in other parts of the district. We therefore request Government either to remedy the evil or to increase the duty till the old rate is reached.



68. The following lines on the wants of port Chandbali, in district Balasore, are quoted with slight verbal alterations from the English columns of the supplement to the *Utkal Darpan*, of the 22nd July :—

UTKAL DARPAN,  
July 22nd, 1883.

CHANDBALI.

“Chandbali is now-a-days the principal port in Orissa. It is situated on the left bank of the river Dhamra, formed by the junction of the Baitarni and the Brahmani, and is about nine miles from the river's mouth. Vessels drawing 17 feet of water can proceed up to this place. Captain MacNeil of the steamer *Pioneer* is said to have discovered this port, then covered over with jungle. This place is now the centre of trade between Calcutta and Cuttack. Throughout the year, and especially during the *Rath* and *Dole* festivals, large numbers of pilgrims pass by this place, and many gentlemen, both European and native, pass by it. There are many resident merchants. Besides, an Honorary Magistrate holds his court in this place and there is also a police station there. These go to prove the importance of the place, but it is to be regretted that there is no doctor there, neither can one be had in any adjacent villages. Unless one can reach Bhudrack, a distance of nearly 30 miles, one cannot expect medical assistance. The want of a dispensary at such a place of importance is indeed keenly felt. We therefore sanguinely hope that the local authorities will take early measures to supply this want. Another want of the place is a telegraph office, which is not less needed than the dispensary, since the merchants feel great inconvenience in communicating promptly with distant ports. We think an experimental office should be established there, and if it pays the cost of the establishment, &c., the office may be made permanent.”

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

*The 11th August 1883.*



CO

The s  
The I  
The p  
Trave  
Major  
Suren  
Const  
The I  
The A  
Coolie  
Effect  
The R  
The r  
dist  
Road  
Asraf  
Appell  
The ou  
Road  
Moral  
Impres  
payi  
Agricu  
A mee

No.

1  
2  
3  
4

5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24



*Venice*